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Remarks

Claims 25 has been amended to remove the language rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Claims 25, 26, 28 and 29 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,167,383 (Henson). Applicants incorporate herein arguments over Henson presented in the Amendment dated October 14, 2003. Claim 25, as amended, further distinguishes this claim as being patentable over Henson, as Henson does not describe or suggest the claimed market research software, or the claimed determining step. Thus, Claim 25 along with its dependent Claims 26, 28, and 29 are patentable over Henson, and withdrawal of their rejection in respectfully requested.

Claim 27 was rejected as being unpatentable over Henson in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,808,908 (Ghahramani). Applicants further incorporate herein arguments over Ghahramani presented in the Amendment dated October 14, 2003. Claim 27 depends on Claim 25, which is patentable over Henson as argued above. Ghahramani does not describe that absent in Henson. Accordingly, Claim 27 is patentable over Ghahramani and Henson either alone or in combination, and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 27 is also respectfully requested.

Rejoinder of Claims 30-33 is requested in this application, since the examination of such claims may be deemed covered by examination of Claim 25 where independent Claims 30 and 32 relate to the network site and system for carrying out the method of Claim 25, as evident from their common elements of sending executable market research software to computer systems for product configuration, and sending back from such computer systems the completed product configuration. Claims 30 and 32 have also been amended to include amended language of Claim 25 adapted for their apparatus and system claim format. Thus, Applicants believe that rejoinder of Claims 30-33 with the elected claims is believed proper.

Claims 40 and 41 have been added to the application, and depend on Claims 25 and 32, respectively.

New Claims 42-46 have also been added which are identical to Claim 25-28 and 40, but for the determining step of Claim 25, and thus should be included with the elected claims. Claim 42 describes the information as representing market research information relating at least to the total price for a hypothetical configured product the user of each of the computer systems is willing to pay in accordance with the features selected by the user. Henson provides a computer

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ordering system. Although a person could price check without ordering a computer via Henson's web pages, there is no suggestion that such total price represents market research information in Henson's web based on-line store for a hypothetical configured product. Thus, Applicants believe that Claims 42-46 are patentable over Henson, and also Ghahramani which does not involve configuring a product.

Claims 1-24 and 34-39 are cancelled without prejudice to their inclusion in a continuation or divisional application.

A petition for a one-month extension of time is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Combined Transmittal and Petition for Extension of time; and
Certificate of Facsimile Transmission.